

AMENDMENT TO DRAWINGS

The sheet of drawings attached as part of the Appendix includes new Figures 3 – 5, which were required by the Examiner to address an objection to the drawings in instant Final Office.

REMARKS***Summary of the Amendment***

Upon entry of the above amendment, claim 22 will have been amended and claim 21 will have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, claims 1 – 20 and 22 currently remain pending.

Summary of the Office Action

In the instant Office Action, the Examiner has objected to the drawings for failing to show each recited feature of the invention. Further, the Examiner has indicated that claims 1 – 13 and 15 – 20 are allowed and that claim 22 would be allowable if presented in independent form to include the features of its base claim. Applicants further note that claim 14 has been rejected based upon formal matters and that claim 21 has been rejected over the art of record. Accordingly, by the present amendment and remarks, Applicants submit that the rejections have been overcome, and respectfully request reconsideration of the outstanding Office Action and allowance of the present application.

Acknowledgement of Allowable Claims

Applicants gratefully acknowledge that claims 1 – 13 and 15 – 20 have been allowed. Moreover, Applicants gratefully acknowledge that claim 22 would be allowable if presented in independent form to include all of the features of independent claim 21.

By the present amendment, claim 22 has been presented in independent and allowable form and independent claim 21 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Traversal of Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph

Applicants traverse the rejection of claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. To supplement Applicants' previous amendment to claim 14, new Figure 5 has been presented which show the disputed element, i.e., an element in which the bolt axis (or axis of the element being driven) does not coincide with the output tool shaft.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 14 is now fully in compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, and request that the Examiner acknowledge the same in the next official communication.

Accordingly, Applicants request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 6 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and indicate that these claims are fully in compliance with the statute.

Objection to the Drawings is Moot

Concurrently herewith, Applicants are submitting a replacement sheet of drawings including new Figures 3, 4, and 5, which addresses and overcomes the pending drawing objections. Moreover, the specification has been amended to include a brief description of these new claims and a detailed description of the same. Support for the drawings and detailed descriptions are found on pages 6 – 8 of the original disclosure.

Thus, Applicants submit that no prohibited new matter has been entered into the instant application.

In particular, as the new Figures show the features recited in claims 7 – 12, 15, and 16, the instant objection is moot. Moreover, Applicants note that the originally submitted

Figures disclose and show the features related to claims 2 and 3, such that this objection is likewise moot.

Accordingly, Applicants request that the Examiner consider the replacement sheet, withdraw the objection to the drawings, and indicate that the drawings are acceptable.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) is Moot

Applicants submit that, by the instant amendment, the rejection of claim 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by LORD et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,974,475) [hereinafter “LORD”] or ANDERSON et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,993,288) [hereinafter “ANDERSON”] is moot.

By the present amendment, Applicants have canceled claim 21 without prejudice or disclaimer, such that the instant rejection is moot.

Accordingly, Applicants request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claim 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and indicate that these claims are allowable over the art of record.

Application is Allowable

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that each and every pending claim of the present invention meets the requirements for patentability under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103, and respectfully request the Examiner to indicate allowance of each and every pending claim of the present invention.

Authorization to Charge Deposit Account

The undersigned authorizes the charging of any necessary fees, including any

extensions of time fees required to place the application in condition for allowance by Examiner's Amendment, to Deposit Account No. 19 - 0089 in order to maintain pendency of this application.

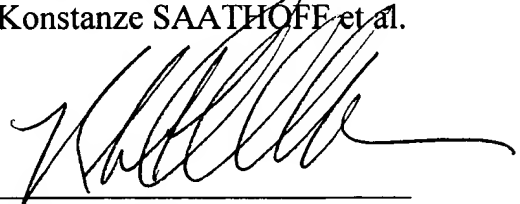
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that each of claims 1 – 20 and 22 are allowable. In particular, the claims have been amended to eliminate any arguable basis for rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, and each claim is patentable over the art of record.

Further, any amendments to the claims which have been made in this response and which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

Accordingly, reconsideration of the outstanding Office Action and allowance of the present application and all the claims therein are respectfully requested and now believed to be appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,
Konstanze SAATHOFF et al.



Neil F. Greenblum
Reg. No. 28,394

Robert W. Mueller
Reg. No. 35,043

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GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.
1950 Roland Clarke Place
Reston, Virginia 20191
(703) 716-1191